Persons found in a state of intoxication in any railway carriage or on any part of railway are liable to be punished under Section 120 of Indian Railways Act.

Train Conductors, Guards, Travelling Ticket Examiners, ticket checking staff, Coach Attendants etc. have been instructed to ensure enforcement of these instructions. Intensive checks and surprise inspections are also being carried out to ensure compliance. Whenever violation of the law and instructions of the administration have been noticed, strict action has been taken and prosecution has been launched against the guilty.

Utilisation of waters ..

369. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state whether Government propose to set up high-powered body to study the utilisation of waters in the country in order to control floods as well as frequent droughts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): Studies for harnessing the water resources for controlling floods as also droughts are largely carried out by the State Governments, and the Central agencies.

The National Water Development Agency set up under the Chairmanship of Union Minister of Irrigation is carrying out studies on the peninsular component of the National perspective plan for creation of optimum storages and interlinking various river systems. to provide irrigation, flood control and hydro power benefits. Further, National Water Resources Council has been set up under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister to guide/advise water resources development at the national level.

Vanaspati scarcity in the country

370. SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT:

SHRI GAYA CHAND BHUYAN:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scarcity of vanaspati is continuing in some parts of the country despite a hike in its prices;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) the manner in which Government obviate chances of animal fats being used in the production of vanaspati?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO): (a) and (b) Sporadic report of shortages are brought to the notice of the industry for rushing supplies to the affected areas. In May and June, there were some localised shortages due to higher demand for marriage season and erratic supplies of imported oil.

(c) The printing of names of oils used in the manufacture of vanaspati has been made statutory with effect from December, 1983. Samples are also drawn by officers of the Directorate of Vanaspati and tested in their own laboratory regularly and by surprise, for detection of non-permitted oil including animal fats, if any, and taking further action against defaulters.

Loss suffered by N. Railway due to Punjab agitation

371. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: what is the estimated loss that the Northern Railway suffered because of terrorist violence in Punjab which led to the suspension of the Railway traffic in Punjab and the neighbouring State?